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Message Text

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12
ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 SCS-03 SCA-01 OPR-02 SY-05 AID-05

PC-01 IO-10 SAM-01 PM-03 EUR-12 (ISO) W
---------- 006458
R 220800Z JUN 75
FM AMCONSUL LUANDA
TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3714
AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUANDA 0807

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ASEC AEMR AL
SUBJECT: AIR EVACUATION OF U.S. MISSIONARIES

REF: PRETORIA 2260

1. IN LIGHT OF THE COMPLETE SUMMARY OF THE PROBLEMS LIKELY TO BE ENCOUNTERED IN AN AIR EVACUATION OF U.S. MISSIONARIES FROM THE NOVA LISBOA REGION, WE FEEL THAT IT WOULD BE WISE TO ABANDON ANY REASONABLE EXPECTATION OF USING USDAO/PRETORIA AIRCRAFT FOR SUCH A ROLE.

2. BESIDES ADMINISTRATIVE CLEARANCES AND OTHER TECHNICALITIES, THE FACT THAT THE DAO AIRCRAFT COULD ONLY LAND AT NOVA LISBOA OR SILVA PORTO AND COULD ONLY CARRY SEVEN PASSENGERS WOULD MAKE EVACUATION OF THE FITY-ODD U.S. MISSIONARIES (100 IF CANADIAN AND BRITISH COLLEAGUES ARE INCLUDED) TOTALLY INFEASIBLE. WE COULD PROBABLY ARRANGE PERMISSION FROM WHATEVER HOST GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE CONTROL AT THAT TIME BUT ARRANGING FOR AIRCRAFT FUEL AT NOVA LISBOA OR SILVA PORTO WOULD PROBABLY BE IMPOSSIBLE DURING A PERIOD OF GENERAL CHAOS.

3. A CONGEN OFFICER AND A COLLEAGUE FROM THE BRITISH CONSULATE
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GENERAL WILL VISIT NOVA LISBOA ON MONDAY, JUNE 23 TO MEET

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WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM ALL THE MISSIONS IN THE AREA.
MOST MISSIONS HAVE A MIXTURE OF AMERICAN, CANADIAN AND
BRITISH CLERGY, MEDICL PERSONNEL AND TEACHERS AND ANY
EVACUATION OF THESE MISSIONS WOULD HAVE TO BE A JOINT ENDEAVOR
WITH THE BRITISH TO BRING OUT ALL MISSIONARIES. IN LIGHT OF
THE REFTEL WE WILL INFORM THE MISSIONARIES THAT THEY CANNOT
COUNT ON EFFECTIVE U.S. AIR EVACUATION AND THAT IF THEY PERCEIVE
THEIR SITUATION TO BE CRITICAL THEY SHOULD MOVE SOONER RATHER
THAN LATER. ANY FINAL DECISION, OF COURSE, IS UP TO THEM BUT
WE HOPE TO ENCOURAGE THE MISSIONARIES TO ERR ON THE SIDE OF
CAUTION.
PORTER

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